

West India
8/185. de. 3.
1-9.
SOME
OBSERVATIONS;

WHICH MAY CONTRIBUTE TO AFFORD

A JUST IDEA

OF THE

NATURE, IMPORTANCE,

AND

SETTLEMENT,

OF

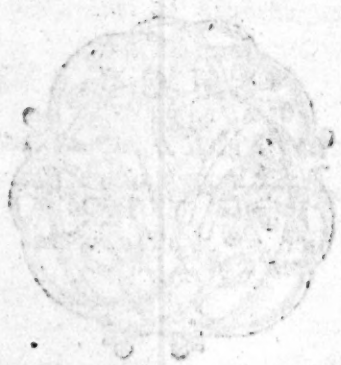
OUR NEW WEST-INDIA COLONIES;



L O N D O N,

Printed in the YEAR MDCCLXIV.

2012
 OBSERVATIONS
 WHICH MAY BE MADE
 A JUST IDEA
 OF THE
 NATURE, IMPORTANCE
 AND
 SETTLEMENTS



LONDON
 Printed in the Year MDCCLXIV

C O N T E N T S.

S E C T. I.

*A slight Sketch of each of the Islands, viz. Grenada
and its Dependencies, Tobago, Dominica, and St.
Vincent* Pag. 1.

S E C T. II.

*From whence, and by whom, these Islands will
principally be settled* 10

S E C T. III.

*The Effects that the Settlement of our New Colonies
will produce on our Old Ones* 13

S E C T. IV.

*The Discouragements and Difficulties to be encountered
by Adventurers in forming new Settlements* 14

S E C T. V.

*The Advantages that may be enjoyed, and the Consi-
derations that will influence those who may be
disposed to embark in this Undertaking* 20

S E C T. VI.

*Of the properest Methods to be pursued by Adventu-
rers in our new Colonies, to engage Success, and esta-
blish Estates* 27

S E C T. VII.

*Of the Distribution, Grants, and Sales of the Lands;
and of the several Steps necessary to be taken for
this end.* 35

CONTENTS

SECTION I.

A right shall be given of each of the several Colonies
and its Dependencies, Towns, Villages, and so forth
Page 1

SECTION II.

From whence, and by what means, the Colonies will
principally be fed
Page 10

SECTION III.

The Limits, which in the Colonies of our West Indies
will be given to the Colonies
Page 18

SECTION IV.

The Colonies, which are to be given to the Colonies
in the Colonies, in the Colonies
Page 24

SECTION V.

The Colonies, which are to be given to the Colonies
in the Colonies, in the Colonies
Page 30

SECTION VI.

Of the property, which is to be given to the Colonies
in the Colonies, in the Colonies
Page 37

SECTION VII.

Of the Colonies, which are to be given to the Colonies
in the Colonies, in the Colonies
Page 44

S O M E
O B S E R V A T I O N S

On the NATURE, IMPORTANCE, and SETTLEMENT of
OUR NEW WEST-INDIA COLONIES.

S E C T. I.

*A slight Sketch of each of the Islands, viz. Grenada
and its Dependencies, Tobago, Dominica, and St.
Vincent.*

GRENADA is situated too far to the southward to be in the track of our other islands; but enjoys from thence, the advantage of being free from hurricanes. It may in time receive some emoluments of trade from the Spanish main, but little can be hoped from the neighbourhood of Trinidad or Terra Firma, where the Spaniards have neither industry nor wealth. It possesses two good harbours, although they are difficult of ingress; and in a war with the Spaniards might prove very inconvenient to many of their ships, which pass this way into the Bay of Honduras and the Gulf of Mexico: our

B

21x

possession

possession of Florida contributes to make this advantage to us the greater. The French in war will likewise be sensible of the want of it. For in order to escape our cruizers to windward of Martinique, it has not been uncommon for their vessels from Europe, to steer their course for the Grenades or its dependencies, and so advance northwards to their intended port. It is very mountainous, rainy, and unhealthy, which circumstances however enable it regularly to yield good crops, and the soil produces a sugar of most excellent quality. There are likewise in the mountains good provision grounds for the Negroes, which save considerable expence in their maintenance. It is a disagreeable country to reside in, is but thinly inhabited, and is furnished with very indifferent habitations, and ill-built sugar-works. The soil is clayey, the roads extremely steep and bad. There are no chaises, and few carts, by reason of the ruggedness and unevenness of its surface. This is a great inconvenience; for the canes to the mill, and the sugar, rum, and other commodities, as well as the necessary stores for estates, must in many situations be carried on the backs of mules; a prodigious increase of labour, in such burning climes, as these articles are exceedingly burthensome. There is another inconvenience attending the face of the country. The mountains are almost inaccessible, and supply a safe and lasting retreat to the run-away Negroes,

groes, who never fail to molest and plunder in the night the grounds of those remaining at home. The French are (I am afraid) better masters than the English; and as their slaves are bred Catholicks, and are entitled to forty five holy-days in the year, besides Sundays, they will be ill disposed to more constant labour, which will probably further encrease the evil of desertion and moroding. Many British subjects have already purchased sugar estates in this Island (of which there are in all 82, besides those of coffee, cocoa, and cotton) at very high prices. The French have harangued in the style of sellers; and the purchasers, who have chiefly bought upon credit, seem well satisfied, and do not choose to undervalue their ventures: I am however of opinion, that their bargains will turn out well, and that this island is very improvable, and a considerable acquisition to the wealth of these kingdoms. As to the lands yet ungranted, or forfeited to the crown, I apprehend they are inconsiderable, and it is reasonable to suppose, by being left unoccupied, they are ill situated and of the worst kind. The grants made to French settlers are usually a certain number of paces along the sea side, running in parallel lines to the top of the mountain. The lowest part is commonly cultivated by the planters; the upper, by the Negroes for provisions; and the heights are either in wood or inaccessible.

THE Grenadillos are mostly rocks and barren spots, good for little. There are two of size, Curacoa, and Becuya, which are very low and dry, have some poor inhabitants upon them, and produce a little cotton. These two islands are esteemed healthy; the sick frequently repair thither to recover and regale themselves with fish and turtle; much good may it do them.

TOBAGO, with respect to situation, is pretty nearly under the same circumstances with Grenada; but, on account of it's great vicinity to Trinidad, may possibly suffer some inconveniences, from the desertion of the slaves thither in canoes, and the interruptions it may be liable to, in its infant state, from the neighbouring Banditti; unless proper precautions are taken to prevent these effects. As to the few poor native Indians now inhabiting it, they should be treated with humanity, encouraged, and properly provided for. This island possesses several good bays, but is at present in the state of Robinson Crusoe's, entirely wild, unsettled, and in wood. I am however of opinion, it will become the most valuable of any ceded to us by the late peace. The soil is said to be excellent, if one may judge from its appearance, and the growth, variety, and luxuriance of the trees it affords; the country is sufficiently mountainous to insure rains, without being so steep
and

and broken as to obstruct the use of carriages, and an easy communication. It will however require much time, labour, and expence of men and money, before it can be trained up to maturity. The progress of population and culture, in a desert island, is as difficult and discouraging in practice, as it is curious in speculation. Seated in our elbow chairs as we are, in full enjoyment of ease and luxury, we seldom reflect, by what variety of long and painful courtship they have been won to our embraces.

DOMINICA, like a rough and rugged champion in battle opposed to sturdy competitors, both menaces, and is threatened; but it is assailed by unequal and superior force. Martinique, within arms length, impends on it to windward, the Saints and Guadaloupe to the west, and Mary-Galante braves it on the north. Thus environed, its situation yet renders it as obnoxious and formidable to Guadaloupe, as that of St. Lucia in our hands would have been to Martinique. It is upon this consideration only, that France has been so averse to resign to us the latter; which we could only covet, from the view of prejudicing her. But this is foreign to my purpose. I return to Dominique. In the track of vessels from our Leeward Islands, to our new acquired ones, it is well seated for commerce, and contiguous, as it were, to the French, is ever open to the prostitution of a clandestine trade.

trade. It has a most noble bay (Prince Rupert's) which, besides its security, its magnitude, the depth of the water, and the goodness of the anchorage, has the advantage of three fresh rivulets running into it. It has moreover two arms (one a peninsula) stretched forth as it were for its defence, which might be rendered almost impregnable. The best part of the country, and of the easiest ascent, is adjacent to the concavity of the bay, yet it is the least cleared and cultivated, because of the frequent visits of his majesty's ships which wood and water here. From what has been said, it is easy to perceive, this will become the most important part of the island, and will probably be the seat of a considerable commercial town. It will however continue particularly unhealthy (as indeed the whole country is to a great degree) being to leeward, and the air infected, in its passage over the woody mountains. All round the coasts the inhabitants have here and there cleared and settled little patches of ground, where it seemed best suited to their purpose, and least rugged; particularly at Grande Bay, (where the Jesuits have a large estate) at Lubiere, Roseaux, and elsewhere, many detached spots being very rich and fertile. From the sea, the Island affords one of the most romantic scenes I ever beheld. One would be tempted to believe that Nature had given birth to it, when labouring in convulsions; or that, by subterranean fires, it had been heaved from the
bed

bed of ocean. The angels and devils in Milton, when engaged in horrid strife, tore up such rocks and craggy mountains, and Dominique stands erected an accumulated monument of this direful contest. But to descend to an humbler theme. Its inhabitants are in number about fourteen hundred, including the poor native Caribbees, who are a quiet well-disposed people, and should be taken kind care of. I need not say how the French came here, or speak of the treaties of Utrecht, or Aix la Chapelle, or of the island having surrendered without terms, after a slight defence. By an article in the late peace, respecting it, its destination is tacitly left to the discretion of his Majesty, and, I presume, will be soon ascertained by his counsels. Far be it from me to suggest, what is proper to be done, on a subject so important to the publick; and so interesting and affecting to its poor inhabitants.

ST. VINCENT is situated to the south of St. Lucia, and within sight of Barbadoes, from whence it will probably derive many inhabitants. It possesses a large and most excellent bay to leeward, called Walhegunny. The country is very mountainous. The eastern part, which is chiefly in wood, is inhabited by about 2000 natives, who owe their origin (truly poetical) to a ship freighted with Negroes, from Africa to Barbadoes, and wrecked on these coasts. Their forefathers, 'midst the general distress, escaped to shore,

shore, and found, in a desert island; a release from their bondage. Thus, from apparent evils, do sometimes flow the greatest blessings. Recovered from their fears, and refreshed with such sustenance as could be found, it is natural to suppose, they soon solaced themselves with their female friends of the party; and, as a state of nature is no enemy to propagation, they of course gave birth to a free people. It is said they found in the woods a few native Caribbees, which they have gradually extirpated, or reduced to their obedience. Thus descended, and by Providence thus chartered, these Sons of Freedom are armed for their defence, and grown tenacious and jealous of their liberties. The woods and mountains they inhabit, are in a manner impenetrable and inaccessible, and the coasts, to windward steep and rocky, are assailed by dashing waves. The other parts of the country are possessed by white inhabitants chiefly of French extraction, who hold their lands, originally, by virtue of grants, or sales from these natives. The truth is, they are on good terms with each other; the French king having always been esteemed their friend and protector, and having never openly usurped the dominion of the island, although the government of Martinique has been artfully establishing a police among their own people in it, and endeavouring to win over the affections of the savages. The French part of the country is well settled and tolerably healthy

healthy ; producing coffee, cocoa, and tobacco. The soil is esteemed excellent ; and, I am told, it is in many respects a better island, and more fully peopled than the Grenades. I presume the white inhabitants and their cleared lands here will have the same destination as those at Dominique, and that the natives will be permitted to continue unmolested in their own grounds and woods. They are said to be a quiet people, and, I imagine, with gentle treatment and immediate good policy, together with his majesty's assurances to them of favor, freedom, and protection, they may be gained over to our cause, and even rendered useful. It will however be essentially necessary to preserve a respectable force here for the security of new settlers, without which we can never hope to see this colony flourishing. The neighbouring French will not fail to instill jealousies, and, with savage minds, nothing is so effectual as that lenity which is accompanied with power.



S E C T. II.

From whence, and by whom, these Islands will principally be settled.

THEY will principally be settled by persons already in the West Indies, or others who are connected with it. Barbadoes being well peopled, and the lands much impoverished, will furnish several, especially of the poorer sort. Our Leeward islands (thinly inhabited as they are) will supply some; and others will be induced to quit Santa Cruz, &c. in order to enjoy the blessings of a British government. As to the continent of America, it will assist with very few. Money is scarce in that part of the world, the distance is remote, and lands are to be had there at a very easy rate. The country is wholesome, the comforts and profits great, the expences very moderate, and the principal required to proceed in the cultivation of grounds, inconsiderable. Besides, the heats are not so excessive, but that the poor may work for themselves, without the assistance of slaves, and reap a comfortable support from moderate labour.

FROM Great Britain and Ireland, there will be few adventurers of fortune, excepting those who are connected with West India affairs, and have proper persons on the spot to transact their business. The better sort of people here, live at their ease, and love security. They look upon
estates

estates in America, as if in the Moon; and do not chuse to trust their property so far out of their sight. A long sea voyage, the apprehensions of sickness and death, the precariousness of West India estates, and a total distrust of persons they do not know, and affairs they do not understand, will blunt even the spurs of avarice, and the ideal expectations of gain. As to the middling kind of people, those that are good for any thing are already employed in some vocation, trade, or mechanic art; and, contented with their situation, will not embark in remote, difficult, and uncertain enterprizes. And as to the poorer sort, I have observed in the part of England I am used to inhabit a total disregard, and dread of such adventures. Besides, if they were differently disposed, they have neither experience, nor money, to embark in the undertaking. Scotland and Ireland will indeed send out several: the lower class are poor there; and, accustomed to difficulties, are contented to try their fortunes in foreign climes: but of these, such as are willing to go thither, will chiefly be menial and indentured servants, employed by others. Their poverty will prevent their being settlers on their own account; for their first outset and voyage would cost something; and, when arrived, the expence and toil of clearing away woods, and erecting habitations, together with a long train of difficulties that might be enumerated (not to mention acute fevers that will kill many, and long inter-

mittents that will discourage others) will render the task not so easy or inviting, as many here ignorantly suppose or expect. I have been the more full upon this head, because I have perceived it is not rightly understood. These islands are not the promised land, flowing with milk and honey. As in the garden of the Hesperides, the fruits cannot be gathered without Herculean labour, and encountering dangers. Of those who adventure, many must fall untimely. Of those who survive, many will fail before enjoyment; and to the happy few, that providentially succeed, may peace and plenty without envy be their lot, and crown them with felicity.



S E C T. III.

*The Effects that the Settlement of our New Colonies
will produce on our Old Ones.*

THE value of our Lands in the old colonies will be diminished, and, afterwards, of our produce. Many inhabitants of the middling and poorer sort will withdraw themselves, and be induced to remove where lands may be had cheaper, which are new, and watered with more frequent showers. This will much weaken our Leeward Islands, already weak indeed; and render the wages of our managers, overseers, and servants much higher; it will likewise lessen the number of our slaves, and encrease their value. Such lands as are not of very good quality, or well situated, will not be worth cultivation; they will be dis-planted, and converted into provision and pasture grounds. The more wealthy planters, who have a large landed interest, will be no friends to the new colonies. However, as they will be sensible they have a declining property in the old islands, they will not fail gradually to establish a growing interest in the new. Notwithstanding this, they will not choose to become inhabitants of the latter. They will endeavour to employ proper persons to transact their business and die in their stead; they themselves will only visit them occasionally. The sickliness and mortality of the country, the wants of comfort, and a tolerable society, will deter them from becoming inhabitants.

S E C T.

S E C T. IV.

*The Discouragements and Difficulties to be encountered
by Adventurers in forming new Settlements.*

A Due consideration of what has been already observed under the foregoing heads, will in a great measure supply us with the knowledge of this. But because it seems apprehended here, that great estates may be raised, with little pains and expence, by those who will only take the trouble of going in quest of them, and because this mistake may in its consequences injure many, and much retard the progress and settlement of our new islands; it may not be improper to guard against it. The first reflections that will occur to sensible men disposed to embark in a new settlement, with the hopes of improving their fortunes, will be the dangers and difficulties they must undergo and surmount, before they can reasonably hope to receive any recompence for their labour; and here the extreme sickness and mortality of the country will not fail to operate most strongly on their minds. Our former colonies, by being less mountainous and well cleared of wood, enjoy a dry and free air, and are become tolerably healthy; our new ones, from the influence of opposite causes, must continue, at least for many years, the melancholy mansions of disease and death. It is remarkable that, in the dispensations of Providence, there is scarce any good, that is not attended with a
corre-

correspondent ill; nor any evil, that is not balanced with some compensation of advantage. If our former colonies are from natural causes dry and less profitable, we are at least repaid with the enjoyments of pleasure and health; if our new ones abound with rain and fertility, the wants of comfort, and the daily hazard of our lives, must be thrown into the scale, against the expectations of wealth. Heat and moisture are the parents of putrefaction; and in such sultry and humid climes, where the body is relaxed, and the texture of the blood broken, it is no wonder, that every day supplies us with the melancholy reflection of the death of a parent, child, or friend. Even the loss of our negroes, were we wholly divested of humanity, must be very affecting, at least to the pockets of their master. Such as will be suited to the labour they must undergo, must be seasoned and inured to toil. They therefore cannot fail of being valuable (at least worth 50l. sterling each) and will, in fact, compose the chief wealth of the poor planters, who transport them to the new colony. Their hearts and spirits will be broken, by being drawn from their former habitations, friends, and families; for such they have, and they are equally possessed of those feelings of nature with ourselves. These misfortunes, with an increase of arduous labour, and frequent sickness, if they are human, must affect them, and add to the common stock of distress and evil. Thus the middling and poorer sort of white people

ple may perchance see ravished from them, in one month, those slaves they have purchased with the toil and frugality of years; and then chagrined, broken and dispirited by losses and disappointments, be compelled to sell their lands, perhaps for less money, than would indemnify them for their losses, and so return from whence they came, to mourn their misfortunes and die a natural death. Let those who doubt the truth and force of these considerations, only take the trouble, to examine into the fate of colonel Vaughan's regiment at Dominique, and of such other of our forces, as have had the miserable destination of such fatal abodes. It is high time, I should drop the curtain, on these melancholy representations, and proceed to others, not so affecting, though equally worthy our attention. And now let us suppose, that there will be many persons not so much influenced by this train of thinking, but that they will be still disposed, to undertake this perilous enterprize. From whence are many of them to derive the necessary credit, and supplies of money, to prosecute their undertakings? Will the merchants at home advance it, to adventurers, who have little security to give but their hopes of success, and a mortgage on their slaves, at best a precarious property; or, if these were sufficient pledges, how long must it be, before woods can be cleared, buildings erected, and produce remitted home for payment? Will not the merchants consider, how little is to
be

be got from such adventurers ; and how much time must elapse, before they can become beneficial correspondents, and return the obligations received ? Have we reflected upon all the several steps to be taken, the time required, and detail of expences necessary, to compleat a sugar plantation out of wood, or even on a particular spot in part cleared ? And when this is in some measure accomplished, will not [Vide B.] the first produce (by reason of the newness of the land, and luxuriancy of the cane, full of watry and ill-concocted juices) be so bad, as to be fit for little, but to be converted into rum : And what will that rum be worth, if the continent of America should be supplied with that commodity or molosses from the French and other nations at a cheaper rate than it is possible for us to afford ? Will not the price of slaves, and of course the expences attending West India estates, greatly increase ? On the other hand, will not sugar probably decline further in value ; and will not the more wealthy planters consider this, and be sensible, that even their success in the new colonies will contribute to defeat the hopes that first carried them thither, unless new markets can be found, to make way for foreign consumption and to keep up the prices ? Will not arguments of less moment have likewise their due weight ; such as the possibility and danger of war, before these infant islands can grow into strength ; or

D

have

have reimbursed the settlers for their past expences? The face of the country likewise, so rugged as to prevent the use of carts and wag-gons, and the mountains, so difficult of access as to afford a lasting shelter for thieves and runaways, will they not help to close this interesting account of the discouragements and difficulties that will attend the settlement of our new colonies? And yet so sharp are the spurs of avarice, so bewitching the prospect of gain, and so intrepid and enterprizing are the dispositions of some men, that there is no doubt but many will be found that will embark in this undertaking; and who, proceeding with necessary judgment and caution, will be handsomely requited for their hazard and expence, and gradually contribute to render our late acquisitions wealthy, important, and beneficial to the mother country. If, therefore, I seem to have thrown too much black into the colouring of the discouragements and difficulties that will attend their first settlement, it is because I think this part of the subject is usually least attended to, by persons unexperienced in these matters; and I should be sorry that, from the want of due and candid information, still further and unnecessary discouragements should be added. I shall, under the following head, explain what inducements adventurers will have, and what advantages they will enjoy. Let me not therefore appear inconsistent. Truth has been my guide; and, as in a picture taken from nature,

nature, my composition is chequered with lights and shades. If it should be asked to what end this picture has been drawn; my answer is, with a good intention; to present just and lively ideas to those who are unacquainted with the originals; and thereby to enable them, to the utmost of my poor abilities, to direct with wisdom, and to execute with confidence.



S E C T. V.

The Advantages that may be enjoyed, and the Considerations that will influence those who may be disposed to embark in this Undertaking.

OUR new acquisitions (which may not improperly be called the Southern Caribbee islands) will undoubtedly possess many advantages over our former colonies. The lands in them may be purchased at a more moderate price, the timber thereon will be valuable; the soil will be new, rich, and fertile; and, when cleared of wood, may be cultivated with less expence and fewer negroes. The profits will be greater, and, by reason of the apparent certainty of seasonable rains, the crops will be more abundant, regular, and adequate to the expectations of the planters. Whereas our old islands, by being less mountainous, and almost entirely cleared of wood, are become extremely dry and unseasonable, inso-much that they hardly yield a crop proportionable to the labour and expence employed upon them once in seven years: Besides, the lands are a good deal impoverished, partly by the violence of the rains that sometimes fall in these climates, and descend in momentary torrents, washing away the soil; and partly from the nature of the sugar-cane, which, from one rich acre, hath been known to vegetate to eighty cart load, is cut annually, and has been long and repeatedly planted on the same ground. This, now a good deal

deal worn out, and exhausted, ratoons ill, and is cultivated and manured at an expence extremely heavy. Impoverished sugar-lands, like hop-grounds, have annually bestowed on them extraordinary industry and cost. I have known the amount of labour employed in one year upon an acre of ground, to have been as much as that acre would have sold for; but I speak of indifferent or bad land. Hence the expences of estates in our old colonies are become great, beyond the belief of any one not well acquainted with matters of this nature [Vide B.]

AND it is as demonstrable as any proposition in Euclid, that, in Barbadoes, Antigua, Nevis, and Monserat, (I except that excellent spot St. Kitts) the planters do not clear by their estates 6 per cent. for their principal (the legal interest of money when lowest among them); nay, from a just consideration of the detail of a particular estate, or of a whole island taken in the general, as Antigua for example, it may be proved, that the planters scarce clear 5 per cent. by the produce of their lands [Vide C]. It may at first sight be urged, that this is a very sufficient income from estates in land, and that in England seldom more is received neat than $2\frac{1}{2}$ or 3 per cent; but when one reflects, why persons in England do many of them prefer less profits from land, to more from money lent, it will be found that the same arguments and inducements will not hold good

good in these remote, unhealthy, precarious, unpleasurable, and uninfluencing possessions. This, were it necessary, might be illustrated at large; for what peer or gentleman of fashion can be found, who would exchange his estate here for a West-India one, of double the income? I know, I have delivered very different opinions of the nature and value of the possessions in our old colonies, from what are generally entertained in these kingdoms; but let it be remembered, that the gentlemen of the West Indies, who have large estates there, and reside in England, have never acquired those estates by their own industry. I believe, this will be readily granted me, by those who know them. Their estates have been raised by the hardship, sweat, and toil of their forefathers, among few capable competitors, in the infancy of colonies; when although their produce sold at a very low rate, it was more than compensated by the fertility of soil, the frequency of rains, the certainty of their harvests, the very moderate expences attending their plantations, the cheapness of living, and the small taxes imposed upon them. These things are much changed. Let those who doubt this truth, take a voyage to Barbadoes, or our Leeward Islands; and, after contemplating the uncertainty, fatigue, care, and expence of a planter's life, enquire how many of them are richer now, than they were ten years ago, or are not to be found indebted in the books of their sugar-factors in London.

And, notwithstanding this, we have been engaged in a war of seven years; and have in the mean time received very high prices for our sugars, even from 30 to 55 s. per hundred weight. How will it be now, when many hundred hogsheds of indifferent sugar have actually sold this year at 25 s. per hundred; and there are now at market as many more to be sold for less? I have said indifferent sugars, because it is well known, that more trouble and expence attend the making them (their qualities depending on seasonable weather, and the nature of soil) than of a better sort. And yet, after being made and shipped, they pay freight, expences, and duties, to the amount of 11 s. per hundred, exclusive of insurance [vide C.] and that according to their quantity, not according to their intrinsic value; that is to say, whether they sell for 25s. or 45s; a difference that actually subsists between the qualities of sugar sent home. Let us deduct 11s. per hundred from one and the other, and we shall stand surprized at the difference of the neat proceeds of a hundred of sugar, and be astonished that no juster mode of taxation has been adopted by government. It behoves us, as friends to our country, to be attentive to the inferences that naturally arise from the several observations contained under this head; otherwise we shall find our mistake when it is too late to retrieve it, and the French have deprived us of the most valuable commerce of Great Britain. But this is a digression

sion would carry me too far. I ask pardon for having already expatiated so much beyond what I first proposed; but the subject is important, and has been little understood. It is besides connected with the head from whence it is deduced, which was, to explain the motives that would incite our industrious planters and other intelligent persons to adventure in the new colonies, where they will hope to make more produce, and, consequently, greater profits, at less expence, than, they are sensible is at present done in the old ones. Now if we check these only motives, in their first birth, we infallibly put an insurmountable obstacle to the growth and progress of our new settlements; whilst the French are artfully alluring inhabitants, and cultivating, with more advantage and fewer discouragements, their better and more extended possessions. I speak this language with confidence, because I know it to be true and well intentioned. I speak it with honesty and candour, because it is contrary to my own interest: I am possessed of a good estate in Antigua, which would now sell for much less, than it would have done two years past; and, in a few years to come, its value will be further impaired, if the new colonies should be speedily settled and cultivated; but, if this should not prove to be the case, the reverse will happen, and it will again rise to its comparative value. I would not mean to suggest, that our late-acquired islands are, in all respects, well situated, circumstanced, and

and formed to make the most flourishing sugar-colonies; but nevertheless, well conducted, they will be found much more valuable and important than the interest of some, and the prejudices of others, would willingly represent them. They undoubtedly may increase our strength and commerce in that part of the globe, prove very inconvenient to the neighbouring French islands in times of war, and considerably augment the wealth, trade, and navigation of Great Britain. Such parts of them as are too steep, craggy, or improper for sugar, may still produce cotton, indico, coffee, cocoa, and provisions, or serve for pasturage. The lands being new, will be rich, ratoon longer, require less planting, and be cultivated with more moderate expence, and fewer negroes. The trees cut down will, some of them, be useful in erecting habitations, works, and other buildings; whilst some may be conveyed away, and sold in our former colonies for similar purposes. And last of all, the rugged and broken composition of the landscape, and its lofty mountains, though unseemly and exceptionable in many respects, yet will for ever enjoy, upon real and philosophical principles, rain and fertility. As this has been more than once mentioned, and much of their merit depends on the truth of this observation, it may not be improper to explain it. It is well known, that, in these latitudes of the globe, the trade-winds operating in a regular and uninterrupted course, the atmosphere does not

E

suffer

suffer those rarefactions and condensations, as, by the effects of different and contrary winds, it undergoes in climes, where this uniformity does not prevail. And from hence it is, Dr. Halley remarks, there is scarce any variation in the height of the barometer, or weight of the air, in those parts. Now the vapours or clouds are born along the Atlantic Ocean, by these winds, through the pathless regions of air; until, interrupted, impeded, or attracted (on principles of gravitation) by lofty lands and woods, they hang upon the mountain tops, and fall in showers: whilst, on the other hand, the intense heat of the sun draws such vapours from the ground; and the everlasting trees, on inaccessible heights, send forth such exhalations from their branches, as moisten the impending atmosphere; and, circulating, again re-visit their parent earth. The effects of these principles are indeed curious and surprizing to those who contemplate them on the spot. Smooth polished Barbadoes, and our Leeward islands, are seen parched up, and perishing with drought; whilst towering and rugged Dominica, St. Vincent, Grenada, and Tobago, are found to enjoy incessant rains and delicious verdure.

S E C T. VI.

Of the properest Methods to be pursued by Adventurers in our new Colonies, to engage success, and establish Estates.

AL L persons disposed to embark in this undertaking, with a view of improving their fortunes, should first consider the capital they mean to employ, the nature of the project, and the length of time they can conveniently afford to lye out of their money. It will then be necessary that themselves, or the friends or Agents they are pleased to depute for this business, should carefully inspect and examine the lands on the spot. The surface of the ground, and the nature of situation, should be first attended to; and these will include our ideas of the probability of its healthfulness, the kind of 'produce it seems best adapted to, the labour and carriage essential to it, its vicinity to, or distance from, rivulets, the sea, shipping places, and the principal towns, together with a free enjoyment of the trade winds, and the likelihood of frequent showers and seasonable weather. As to the quality of the soil, it may be pretty well guessed at by the timber and trees it affords, the appearance it bears, and a chymical examination of its principles; for which the necessary means may be easily known and procured. When a tract of ground is pitched on that enjoys all, or most of these advantages, the inspector should by no means be discouraged

the price it may amount to, for the first cost will be inconsiderable, in proportion to the expence of clearing and settling; and the ensuing conveniences and profits will most amply repay it.

PREVIOUS to, or after the purchase, it will be necessary, especially if the Proprietor does not mean to become an inhabitant, to form useful connexions and friendships with experienced men engaged in the same pursuit, and residing in the neighbourhood. A good natured and intelligent manager and overseer are now to be appointed to direct, and proper slaves procured to execute the business. A few able and sensible tradesmen and negroes should be transported to the colony, who are contented, from a love of novelty or other causes and encouragements, to change their former habitations; but none should on any account be compelled to do this against their inclinations. What further slaves are wanted, may be purchased from Guinea cargoes, and recommended to the care and protection of the others; and, in my opinion, will turn out better, in many respects, than negroes accustomed to our other islands, and pining after former connexions and habits. The first fair step of success will accompany humanity, and the great point in view will be, with the blessing of providence, to get people to live. To this end they should be lodged at night in temporary huts, or hulks of vessels, provided and situated for that purpose. They should

should then immediately proceed to clear away
 the woods on the most healthy spot, which will
 probably be found on some eminence, exposed to
 a free and dry air. Here a dwelling house for the
 overseer, and convenient negroe houses should be
 immediately erected, and a very commodious
 sick house or hospital, furnished with every neces-
 sary and comfort for the sick; especially good
 nurses and a sensible practitioner. Wise men
 will not attempt too rapid a progress, or intro-
 duce more slaves than can properly be inspected
 when well, or attended when oppressed with ill-
 ness. I think, from twenty to thirty in number
 will be sufficient at first for the largest possession,
 and in all probability may prove adequate to
 fulfilling the conditions of clearing and culture;
 but they should be immediately supplied as they
 may happen to fall off; and their spirits should
 be supported with good nature and tenderness.
 In particular, they should be well fed, properly
 clothed, and supplied with all those little aids of
 conveniency and comfort, which, it is well known,
 in that part of the world, will cheer up and glad-
 den their hearts. The expences attending this
 little policy, care, and benevolence, will not be
 thought burthensome, by those masters who are
 either wise or good; for the performance of this
 duty will be rewarded with the blessings of God,
 and the affection of their dependants. As to the
 labour they must undergo, it should not be too
 severe or disproportioned to their abilities; and,

in

in wet mornings, bad weather, and on other suitable occasions, it will prove our interest to encourage, and afford them some indulgence. Their pride should be cultivated, their punishments inflicted with prudence, moderation, and concern. And, in order to prevent the cruelties that might be exercised by some men, through want of judgment or defect of feeling, a proper law of the country should be established, to restrain them within due bounds; which should likewise provide, in some measure, for the food and raiment of the slaves. I confess, I could wish some sentiments of Religion could be instilled into their minds. I am sure it would be expedient; and, perhaps, I have thought as much on this subject, as those who differ from me in opinion. But, I am sensible, this would require more attention and assistance than Protestants will choose to employ on such an occasion. I am sorry to remark it, and to make this further observation, that, tho' the Doctrines of our Religion are more pure and simple than the Roman Catholick, yet this last is more fitly adapted to engage and captivate the passions of unthinking Savages.

I think persons of some opulence adventuring in these colonies, and proceeding in the manner I have suggested, cannot well fail of success, as far as weak human foresight can ascertain it. And now it will be proper, that still further grounds should

should be cleared, round about the dwellings and cottages I have before recommended to be erected: and first of all provisions should be planted for the White people and Negroes, and pasturage prepared for cattle and other beasts. After this is accomplished, attention may be had to raise some sort of produce and profit, in order to reimburse past expences. And this will consist of either coffee, cocoa, indico, cotton, sugar &c. as may be compatible with the ideas and abilities of the planter. Advice and theory would at present be vain and unregarded; for time, industry, and experience alone can furnish opportunity, and beget profitable knowledge.

It may not, however, be improper to remark that a rapid progress and establishment of a sugar plantation can only be undertaken by persons of wealth and enterprising dispositions. Those who embark with these advantages will find that an estate of 500 acres properly and prudently supplied with slaves, cattle, buildings, and other requisites, in an island where the lands are new and fertile, and the rains frequent, cannot fail in a few years to produce a noble income. I think it would be capable of affording annually from three to four hundred hogsheds of sugar, and a large proportion of rum; especially as this last commodity is made to greatest advantage where there is plenty of water, and much molasses is drained

drained from the sugar. The value of this sugar and rum, at a moderate calculation, will appear to amount to a very great interest upon the capital laid out, which will be found to bring in more profit than five times that sum expended in our old colonies. It is well known that in St. Kitts, altho' subject to dry weather, good lands have often sold at 100 l. sterling per acre; and I am convinced that an acre in a new colony may with proper management be cleared for less than 20 l, after deducting every expence, and allowing even for the mortality of slaves. Besides, great satisfaction must accrue to a planter in new colonies from the certainty of his crops, opposed to the consideration of the precariousness of them, in old ones. But these are not the only advantages that will be enjoyed; for the plantation may be worked with half the number of negroes and expence that would be required upon lands, impoverished, and frequently planted and manured. Moreover the provisions regularly yielded on moist and good grounds must greatly lessen the cost of feeding and supporting the slaves. The conveniences and comforts will from hence be even great to the white inhabitants; for all manner of herbs, garden-stuff, and fruits, so difficult to be raised in our former dry islands, may here be procured with little trouble. The rivulets also will afford good store of fresh fish, and the luxuriancy of the pasturage great plenty of beef, mutton, &c.

Sec. at moderate prices ; whereas these articles in our old colonies are become extremely dear, and difficult to be maintained at any rate.

But as there is no doubt that many persons will be disposed to become adventurers in our new colonies, who, from much caution or small fortunes, may be unable or unwilling to risque so large a capital as is necessary for the speedy and effectual establishment of an estate for sugar, it may be proper to observe that these last may prosecute another plan full as advantageous, and with less hazard and expence of money. It is by no means essential at present to point out all the particular and various steps proper to be taken for this end. But in general it may be well to remark that it may be best accomplished by risking few negroes at the first out-set, and erecting temporary huts and buildings at little cost, and then (after planting the necessary provisions, and providing carefully for the sick) immediately applying to the culture of cotton, coffee, cocoa, or indigo, articles which afford good and speedy profit, yet require but few slaves, and little expence of building, in order to raise and manufacture them. It is evident, that, by this and similar means, considerable estates may be gradually established at an easy rate, and which will not only be annually improving and reimbursing the moneys expended upon them, but may more-

over be converted afterwards into sugar plantations; or, if the proprietors should be disposed to part with them, might probably be sold for four or five hundred per cent. advantage. Many persons, alarmed with the difficulties of beginning a new settlement, will yet be desirous of purchasing a few years hence and there can be no doubt, but that lands will rise very highly in their value, as soon as time shall draw up the curtain, and open a fair prospect of success.



S E C T. VII.

*Of the Distribution, Grants, and Sales of the Lands,
and of the several Steps necessary to be taken for
this end.*

THE object of government, as far as I understand it, seems to be of a mixed nature. The lands, both cleared and uncleared, are deemed the property of his Majesty; of which small parcels in wood are meant to be granted to poor settlers; the rest (excepting what may be continued to the present inhabitants) is fairly to be sold for as much money as it will bring, which is faithfully to be remitted home as soon as possible, in order to be applied to the public service. But then this view is to be so accomplished, as to be compatible with one more essential, namely, the speedy population and culture of the islands themselves; so that no terms or conditions are to be insisted on, that will discourage this undertaking in its infancy. This I take to be the plain state of the case, and shall proceed accordingly, with as much brevity as the subject will admit of.

EACH island should be surveyed, as soon as possible, with as much accuracy as the nature of the woods and mountains, and the rugged face of the country, will allow. The divisions of parishes, public roads, intended towns and churches, with all lands, fortifications, and other buildings, serviceable to the King or public, should be first attended to,

and properly provided for. And here it may be useful to remark, that a certain number of paces from the sea side, all around the coast, should be allotted for his majesty's service and the use of the colony; and that moreover proper proportions of lands in wood should be preserved, in convenient places, for the public benefit, and to prevent that drought, which, in these climates, is the usual consequence of a total removal of the woods. As to the choice and arrangement of the ground intended for the principal town, regard should be had to the healthfulness of the situation, all the necessary conveniences for shipping, and an easy carriage and communication to and from the neighbouring country. The streets should be airy, and so disposed as to receive the benefit of the trade winds; and suitable proportions for yards, gardens, or small fields, should be annexed to the several lots for houses. Convenient market places should be appointed, and good barrack grounds, with adjacent lands for the various uses of the king's officers and troops, and which the private men at their leisure hours might cultivate for the service of the officers and themselves. I presume, I need not point out, that, in these expensive and unhealthy islands, they will be intitled to this, and every other reasonable indulgence of favour and humanity; and particularly an allowance of the king's provisions, and an immediate establishment of barracks, and a well-provided hospital. If this

is not attended to, their condition will be indeed deplorable. But to return : the lands which are cultivable, should be divided into lots, numbered, and laid down on paper, with proper descriptions and boundaries to prevent mistakes. What is granted shou. d be in wood, from 10 to 30 acres according to the ability of the poor settlers ; and for their further encouragement, these parcels should have the advantage of being near the sea side, at proper distances from one another. By this means the possessors might immediately begin to clear the ground, and would have a short and easy conveyance to and from the sea, be easily supplied with all kinds of fish for the support of themselves and Negroes, and the coasts would moreover be strengthened with inhabitants. To these grants should be annexed certain conditions of culture, at the rate of five acres per cent. annually, in default of which they should revert again to the crown, excepting in cases of extraordinary sickness, or other unforeseen misfortunes. These lands should be so far unalienable, as to be incapable of being united with any other, excepting in cases of marriage, or lawful inheritance, or by consent of the governor and council. And because the meer grant of such small parcels of land in wood, will by no means be sufficiently inviting or acceptable to poor settlers, who have neither the means of subsistence, nor the slaves, money, or credit essential to the clearing and cultivation of grounds, and erecting the necessary build-

buildings thereon; it would be advisable to attract poor inhabitants, by still further encouragements; such as defraying the expences of their voyage to the new colony, the supplying them with provisions and proper tools, or else with the use of slaves, money, or credit. But since, by reason of the exigencies of government, no assistance of this nature can be well afforded, it is evident the improvement of the colony must very much depend on the policy and progress of the more wealthy adventurers, who may become purchasers. And here a just medium must be preserved, as to the conditions of sale and culture expected at their hands. Enough should be exacted, to raise a reasonable sum of money for the public service, and to prevent the lands from being monopolized or suffered to lie unimproved; and yet not so much must be required as might deter them from undertaking a speedy settlement. As to the lots for sale, they should be so contrived and laid out, as to embrace every circumstance of conveniency the nature of the situation will admit; but it will be impossible for government here to give further directions on this head, with any tolerable foundation of real intelligence. These lots might extend from one to six hundred acres, of which by far the greater number should consist of only two or three hundred. It will be impossible to ascertain, in any measure, the value of these lands but by such an inspection and examination on the spot as the nature

ture

ture and circumstances of them will permit ; and it may be easily foreseen that no accurate judgment can be formed of lands covered with woods and thickets. However the various accidents of situation, surface, and seeming quality, will, in these islands, render some parcels of land much coveted, whilst others, will be scarcely accepted. These and other considerations will make it important to government, that persons of character, ability, and integrity, should be sent out, and employed in the principal direction of affairs. A very moderate price should be ascertained ; less than which the lot should not be sold for ; and the more speedily, and the greater the number of lots that are disposed of, the better it will be for the public service. However, in order to prevent frauds, and to sell the land to the best advantage the nature of the thing will admit of, they should be set up to fair and public auction, after immediate and sufficient notice given, in all the news papers in Britain, Ireland, and America, of the time, place, and conditions of sale ; in order that persons disposed to purchase may repair thither, or depute others they may think fit to employ on this business. Such lands as will not fetch the minimum fixed upon them, must continue on hand, till a further time. As to those that may be sold, the terms of payment should be rendered very easy ; otherwise neither sufficient credit, money, or competitors will be found, and of course the lands will fetch little or nothing.

nothing. The time of sale should be in the healthy season of the year, i. e. between the first of February and the middle of July, as it may be found most eligible to appoint. The place, either Grenades, or the particular island about to be disposed of. The terms of purchase, should be thirty per cent. paid the first year, and afterwards 10, and then 20 per cent. annually, without interest; until the remainder of the purchase money shall be discharged, which will of course compleat the payments in five years. The lands should be conveyed in fee, but in default of payment of any of the annual bonds, to be taken for this purpose, they should be liable to be again sold, in order that the king should be first paid. Moreover, to prevent monopolies, and to insure the progress and improvement of the new colony, certain conditions of culture should be annexed to the sales; at least it should be required of purchasers, to clear away at the rate of five acres per cent. annually, (after the first year's possession) till one half of the cultivable part of their lands shall be settled, and this under a penalty of 5l. annually on each acre not cleared, which by the conditions ought to have been so; and the monies so forfeited and raised should be applied to the benefit of poor settlers. As to useless gullies, precipices and tops of mountains, which compose great part of these islands (excepting Tobago) they might be thrown in where contiguous, and made no account of, or else reserved to the

the king, as may appear most judicious. These, or such like, might be the outlines, containing a more finished plan. To digest every particular would be tedious, and at present unnecessary; for, after all, no one should principally be entrusted with the direction of this business, but such a man as deserves confidence; and the nature of his commission should be such, as to make it his pride, as well as interest, to serve the publick faithfully. Men of different principles can never be sufficiently guarded against, at these remote distances: for in vain will suspicion, distrust, and jealousy, invent a thousand stratagems, to confine or detect those, whom honour cannot bind. It is therefore to be presumed, reasonable discretionary powers will be granted. A good man will be careful how he makes use of them; and a bad one will pervert those, which have been withheld. It is impossible, at this distance, to foresee and provide for all the possible contingences that may occur on the spot; and it would be idle and in vain to attempt it. Countries already settled and governments already formed, like healthful constitutions we are acquainted with, may receive a long detail of instructions to continue them as they are. But in such as are to be created, out of Chaos as it were, altho' improper powers ought to be denied, yet at least it should be permitted to apply quick remedies, and exert the godlike faculties of doing well. It is absolutely impossible to say, with any degree of certain-

ty, how few, or how many, the number of settlers or purchasers may be, or how much the lands may probably be sold for; this will much depend on the abilities to buy, and the caprice of persons in that part of the world. Some circumstances however will not fail to have influence on their minds: If the lands should be valued at too high a rate, and improper arts used to exalt their price; or if persons inclined to adventure, should, after their first resolution taken, and the arrangement of their affairs for this end, and after the expence and trouble of a sea voyage, and the pains and hazard of examining lands; if, after this, I say, they should discover, that what they sought is not yet to be had, or worth their while to return for; and that even after fairly purchasing it at publick auction, without or against competitors, still more time and doubts, and difficulties must be added, before the purchase can be compleated, and the work begun; assuredly many will grow dissatisfied, or at best indifferent how they engage in such undertakings. The disgust will spread around, and the difficulties and discouragements, which I have illustrated under its proper head, will not fail to preponderate in the scale, and sink the enterprize into neglect or contempt. It is however to be wished, both for the sake of the publick, and for the honour of those who may be entrusted with this delicate commission, that every possible method should
be

be devised, to render the sales fair and open as in the face of Heaven. But such cautions as these should be carefully distinguished from others, that would only tend to injure the cause, they are meant to support.

I HAVE purposely omitted making any reflections on the settled and cultivated lands in Dominique and St. Vincent, or on the French inhabitants, now possessed of them; because I am unwilling to give my opinion on so delicate a subject, or to recommend what is proper to be done in relation to the public, or them. Thus much however, must be acknowledged, that the greatest number of useful and faithful subjects, and the more property can be retained upoh these islands, the sooner they will become flourishing and beneficial to Great-Britain, and the fewer advantages will accrue to the French king, in the population and settlement of his possessions in these seas. Upon what terms and conditions therefore, they can be most safely and best retained, and render'd good and faithful subjects, seems a question of the utmost importance in this business. But whatever may be the determinations of his Majesty and his Councils on this occasion, I am persuaded they will be tempered with good policy, justice, and moderation.

(A Pag. 17.) An Estimate for settling a Plantation for Sugar of 500 Acres (suppose in Tobago).

It should be premised that the land cannot properly be cleared of wood, &c. in less time than five years.

1.

Prime cost of 500 acres of land.

Thirty negroes as follows,

6 able seasoned negroes at 60 l. each	360l.	
4 expert tradesmen (carpenters and masons) at 100 l. each	400	1560
20 more negroes at 40 l. each,	800	
8 oxen and 2 horses at 20 l. each (the usual price of them in our old colonies)		200
Dwelling house for manager and overseer, with store-house, sick-house, and other buildings immediately necessary,		1000
Charges of transporting slaves, cattle, provisions, &c. to the new colony,		200
Cloathing and feeding 30 slaves for a year at 6 l. each,		180
A Manager's wages per annum,	200 l.	280
An overseer's wages	80	
Doctor and expences attending the sick, per annum,		50
Tools of all sorts with hoes and bills,		100
2 carts, with chains, furniture, &c.		60
		3630

To loss on negroes at 10 per cent.	156l.	8 6
Ditto on cattle at 15 per cent.	30	
To interest on 3630 l. at 8 per cent, being the legal interest of St. Christopher's, Nevis, and Montserrat		290

Expence of the first year — 4106

I suppose that in the second year some provisions might be planted for the use of the negroes; I shall therefore allow only 4 l. each for cloathing and feeding, which makes		120
Manager's wages,	200 l.	280
Overseer's wages,	80	
Doctor and expences attending the sick		50

Amount carried forward 4556

Amount brought over	_____	_____	1,	4556
Loss on negroes at 10 per cent.	_____	156	}	186
Ditto on cattle at 15 per cent.	_____	30		
Interest on 4106 l. at 8 per cent.	_____	_____		328

Expence to the end of the second year — 5070

It will now be proper to add 20 negroes to the gang (which make up the number 50) at 40 l. each	_____	_____	}	800
But as I suppose still more provisions will by this time be planted for the use of the negroes, I shall allow for cloathing and feeding 50 negroes, only 3 l. each, which makes	_____	_____		
Manager's wages	_____	200 l.	}	280
Overseer's wages	_____	80		
Doctor and expences attending the sick	_____	_____		50
Loss on negroes at 10 per cent.	_____	236	}	266
Ditto on cattle at 15 per cent.	_____	30		
Interest on 5070 l. at 8 per cent.	_____	_____		40

Expence to the end of the third year — 7021

To an addition of 20 negroes (which make up the number 70) at 40 l. each,	_____	_____	}	800
To an addition of 12 bulls and oxen (which make up the number 20) at 20 l. each,	_____	240 l.		
And 8 cows at 10 l. each,	_____	80	}	320
Cloathing and feeding 70 negroes at 3 l. each	_____	_____		210
Manager's wages	_____	200	}	280
Overseer's wages	_____	80		
Doctor and expences attending the sick	_____	_____		50
Loss on negroes at 10 per cent.	_____	316	}	394
Ditto on cattle at 15 per cent	_____	78		
Interest on 7021 l. at 8 per cent.	_____	_____		561

Expence to the end of the fourth year, 9636

To an addition of 40 negroes (which encrease the gang to 110) at 40 l. each.	_____	_____	}	1600
	_____	_____		

N. B. The number of negroes added in this and the following year, is too great to be done judiciously at one time: but as this calculation is carried no further than the beginning of the sixth year, I have chosen to suppose it, because the expence of the settlement will appear compleat.

Amount carried over, 11236

Amount brought over,		1.
To cloathing and feeding 110 negroes at 3 l. each,		11236
To 20 more oxen (which make up the number of bulls and oxen 40) at 20 l. each,	400	330
12 cows (which make up the number 20) at 10 l. each,	120	
12 Mules at 30 l. each	360	980
2 more horses (which make up the number 4) at 20 l. each	40	
2 carts, &c. (which make up the number 4) at 30 l.	60	
The plantation may now be in such forwardness as to require the erecting of sugar works, viz. a sugar mill, boiling house, curing house, still house, with other necessary buildings, which, together with 9 coppers, skimmers, ladles, stills, worm tubs, with a variety of other utensils, too numerous to particularize, will amount to not less than		
To hoes and bills, and supplying such tools as have been worn out,		3000
Manager's wages	200 l.	100
Overseers wages	80	280
Doctor and expences attending the sick		50
Loss on negroes at 10 per cent.	476	
Ditto on cattle at 15 per cent.	216	692
Wages of an additional overseer, which with the manager will then be three in number		60
Interest on 9636 l. at 8 per cent.		770

Expence to the End of the fifth year, 17498

To an addition of 40 negroes (which make up the number 150) at 40 l. each } 1600

N. B. I have already explained myself why I have supposed this addition, although the number is too great to be judiciously added at any one time.

Mem. The present stock of cattle, consisting of 40 bulls and oxen, 20 cows, 12 mules, and 4 horses, will be sufficient.

To a variety of other articles and contingent expences, not included in this calculation, but which must necessarily be incurred during the course of the foregoing years, and will amount to not less than } 1000

Sterling 20,098
N. B.

N. B. I have not included in this calculation the prime cost of 500 acres of land, which it is impossible at present to ascertain. It is evident that the plan of settlement above suggested is only calculated for wealthy persons, determined to make a rapid progress in the establishment of a sugar estate; but others of inferior property need not therefore be deterred from adventuring, as they may pursue, with more caution and less expence, other methods of improving their fortune, which are better adapted to their circumstances. Vide Page 35.



(B. Page 21.) The following is an Estimate of the Annual Expence of a Sugar Plantation, in Antigua, consisting of 500 Acres of Land and 300 Negroes, producing, at an Average, 200 Hogsheads of Sugar, each of 1500 lb. neat in the Island, or 1200 lb. at the King's Beam in England; and 120 Hogsheads of Rum, each containing 110 Gallons; wherein are comprehended such Disbursements only as are absolutely necessary, exclusive of the contingent Expences, which are very considerable.

A proper proportion of bills, hoes, and tools for the number of negroes stated	30 l.	} 910
Negro cloathing	50	
For feeding the negroes with corn, beans, herrings, mackarel, fshads, and beef at Christmas besides what provision the estate may afford, will amount to	300	
Temper lime and lamp oil, for the boiling house	10	
Manager's salary	160	} 254
Principal overseer	60	
An inferior one	40	
Doctor, &c.	60	} 280
Staves, heading, hoops and nails for 200 sugar hogsheads, and 120 rum hogsheads	200	
Public taxes on this estate and produce, for the support of the government of the island (exclusive of the $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. duty paid to the king) amounting to 419 l. 15 s. 10 d. currency, which is sterling about		
		Sterling 1164

Besides a great variety of contingent expences and all taxes paid to the king.

The following is a particular account of all the taxes paid on the above plantation and produce, in the island of Antigua, exclusive of the duties payable in England.

To deficiency of 7 white servants at 40 l. currency each is 280

N. B. By a law of the island. passed with an intention of better peopling it, but which is now become a mode of taxation, every estate ought to keep a free tenant or white servant capable of bearing arms to every 30 negroes, under a penalty of 40 l. for each defective; and as a manager and 2 overseers are sufficient for the direction of any one plantation, this becomes such a tax as I have stated it. 280

		l. s. d.
Amount brought over,	_____	280 00 00
Further tax for defraying the expence of the go- vernment of the island, equal to 6 s. per head upon the negroes	_____ } _____ }	90 00 00
N. B. This mode of taxation is changed by being imposed upon the produce to the same amount.		
Tax upon land at $1\frac{1}{2}$ d. per acre,	_____	3 02 06
Parish tax upon land at 8 d. per acre,	_____	16 13 04
Ditto—upon slaves at 2 s. per head,	_____	30 00 00
	Currency	419 15 10

Which is about	_____	l.
The $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. duty paid to the king upon 200 hogf-		Sterling 254
heads of sugar, weight 300,000, but being endoried	}	
at only 200,000, amounts to 9000 weight of sugar,		60
being 6 hogshheads worth 60 l. sterling,	_____	
6 casks which are a perquisite to the collector,	_____	4
Duty as above on 120 hogshheads of rum of 110 gallons	}	
each, but being endoried at only 100, amounts to 600		40
gallons of rum, worth	_____	
6 casks, which are a perquisite to the collector,	_____	6

The last four articles comprehend the amount of the $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. duty upon the sugar and rum, making 110 l. sterling.

N. B. If the sugar is shipped for North America it pays 1 s. 6 d. enumerated duty, and for every hundred weight imported into Great Britain 6 s. 6 d. and the rum a duty of 5 s. 3 d. per gallon.

(C. Page 21.) Calculation of the Value and Produce of the Island of Antigua.

	1.
The inhabitants of the Island of Antigua pay taxes for 60000 acres. The land, at a very moderate computation, may be valued at 15 l. sterling per acre, which will amount to	900000
The Island contains more than 300 sugar-estates. The sugar-works, other buildings, plantation-utensils, and stock, on each estate, will be worth, at an average, at least 3000 l. sterling,	900000
There are in the Island 37000 negroes, of which at least 25000 are employed on sugar-estates. These, at an average, are worth at least 40 l. sterl. a head,	1000000
	2800000
The interest of this sum, at 6 per cent. will be	168000

N. B. The Land is in general so much undervalued, that the insignificant quantity of cotton, &c. produced in the Island, need not be considered.

The Island of Antigua has produced from 6000 to 26000 hogsheads of sugar in a year; and, upon an average, it may be fairly rated (after deducting the sugar paid into the Custom-house for the $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. duty, at not more than 16000 hogsheads of sugar per annum. This sugar, according to the present price, and which will probably not increase, will neat about 10 l. sterling per hoghead. 16000 hogsheads, at 10 l. sterling per hoghead, is

160000

The rum produced, in the usual proportion, from the above sugar, will be something less than 10000 hogsheads. This rum, according to the usual calculation of planters, is not more than sufficient to pay the annual expences of the estates; on the contrary the purchase of slaves, stock, and other contingent expences, will occasion even a deduction from the supposed profits arising from the sugar, so that the neat proceeds will scarcely amount to 5 per cent on the value of the principal.

(D. Page

(D. Page 23.) Charges on a Hoghead of Sugar, weighing
12 cwt. neat, and sold at 25 s. per cwt.

			l.	s.	d.
Custom at 6 s. 3 $\frac{9}{10}$ d. per cwt.	_____	_____	3	15	11
Freight at 3 s. 6 d.	_____	_____	2	02	00
Lighterage and wharfage	_____	_____	0	01	00
Landing, housing, and weighing,	_____	_____	0	01	00
Cooperage and landwaiter	_____	_____	0	00	09
Primage, Dover and Ramsgate duties, and trade,	_____	_____	0	10	10
Warehouse rent, 8 weeks,	_____	_____	0	02	00
Brokerage, $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.	_____	_____	0	01	06
Commission, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.	_____	_____	0	07	06
			6	12	06
Neat proceeds	_____	_____	8	07	06
			£.	15	00 00

Insurance generally 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. in time of peace.

P I N I S.



12 cows, more, and sold only 7, for two
(D-Type 22.) Churned on a flagstone floor, weighing

[illegible]